

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023, 6:15 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Mike Hogan.
2. Approve Agenda - a motion was made Fred with a second by Karen. Motion carried.
3. Approve Minutes from Regular SB Meeting, April 4, 2023 –A motion was made by RD with a second by Fred. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment – Bob Burke – support to keep the stop sign on Dubray, to dropping it down to a yield would reduce the people from stopping all together. Amy also discussed the DRB.
5. Cemetery Commissioner – Investing money – Melvin would like to talk about money the Cemetery Commission. He wished to invest the money from the Estate of Richard Spaulding with Edward Jones. Our Investment Policy does not allow for investments in investment companies that are not FDIC covered. He would also like to move the investment of \$160,000 in Union Bank. RD asked if the Cemetery Commission falls under the free-standing policies of the Town. They do not and the SB stated the Cemetery Commission should go ahead and do what they think is best. Mike suggested to check with Charles Schwabb. Investment companies will need to see their bylaws and their federal tax number.
6. Approval of Emergency Management Planning – required by the State by May 1. Went over the contacts. Karen felt that we should wait to approve it at the May 2 meeting. Jenn will check to see what kind of repercussions this will have on grants.
7. Discussion on Town Web Site and Decision – talked to Seth Comouter Service and MacDesign and KavVato. Seth was in person, MacDesign was via zoom. RD wanted to know how available to the Town with Seth be. He will strive to have 24 hour turnaround. Mike looking at the proposal \$2,500-\$3,500 and are you still in this range. He believes it will not go over the \$3,500 and he believes it would take about 2-2 ½ weeks. RD is there will be any downtime. Seth said that there will be no down time, but the worst case scenario would be about 24-48 hours downtime. Will there be any issues separating issues between the provider we have now and with Seth. Michelle said the current provided said she will work with a new provider, and will also check with her about extending her contract it for a short time during this transition. Karen would like to have a small working group of 5 be pulled together for the new website. RD move to Seth, with a second by RD. Motion carried with Fred abstaining.
8. DRB discussion on Pransky Conditional Use Permit – DRB meeting on April 10. The issues were met and addressed. They are able to go ahead.
9. Frank Kampf would like to discuss Whittier Hill Ditches – Ditches by his parent’s house. Road has grown over the culvert. Eventually would like to get it on the road crew radar. Sid stated that it is on their list to get this taken care.
10. Traffic Ordinance – Yield Sign – Cabot Plains and Dubray Road – Discussion and Decision – comments on the yield or stop sign. Mr. Burke would rather keep the stop sign. Sid believed that a yield sign would be more than enough. Another concern regarding the 60 stop signs – to keep an eye out on the stop signs. Each sign cost around \$400 sign. The state should take care of the Thistle Hill sign since they are the ones that hit it. Chip Taylor is it worthwhile to keep the signage. Many stop signs and yield are mandatory from the State. Sid will do an inventory. RD will look at the Ordinance. It was stated that stop signs are more enforceable. We will leave the stop sign on Dubray Road.
11. Water/Wastewater – there was no business to report.
12. Highway -
 - a. Update from Highway – communication with the Board is essential. Road situation – is bad, they are trying to keep take care of them. They are making more damage trying to repair. It all happened so quickly.
 - b. Uniforms - Unifirst does not do a good job. The Town Crew would like to purchase a washer and dryer to do the town crew clothing. This will cost less than what we are paying Unifirst. We are in no contract with Unifirst and can cancel at any time.
 - c. Buffalo Turbine blower – purchase to go on grader – trees and pine needles, plugged culverts, clean ditches. We can use the \$9,300 (money from lawnmower and money from new equipment). If it is plugged with gravel, this will work much faster than the crew to do it which would sometimes take 2-3 hours.
 - d. Hiring Bradshaw for village sweeping - \$165/hr – 10 hours. He is out of Cambridge, Sid will check with him.
 - e. Replacing propane furnace at the garage – problem with it.
 - f. Town Truck – talked about leasing a ¾ ton pickup with a plow. This is to be decided. (Larry would be interested in the pick-up.)
 - g. Ride-alongs with Town Crew – Betty did check with VLCT and there is nothing to prohibit anyone to drive along, but it is at your own risk. A waiver would not work for this.

- h. Sidewalks in winter – Sid has a possible lead. We will look at old bid.
 - i. Parttime road person. – need a fourth person to flag, other person especially if we are doing 2 jobs. Envision as an on call. Mainly for the flagging. The flagging program does not apply to backroads. Flaggers are quite expensive. There are many other functions that a part-time person would do.
 - j. He would like to sell the skid steer and buy a broom on the loader on the aprons– sweeping is difficult. He will put it on Ebay. It only has 200 hours \$60,000.
 - k. Salt Shed – whole back wall is rotted. Panels on side are also rotting. It will cost \$11,725 to replace the panels and will then treat panels. Cheaper to do this than to purchase another salt shed. It does fit 3-4 loads. Canvas door does not work. Laguense could do the labor for a total amount \$15,000-\$20,000.
 - l. Safety Grant items – gas post pounder. Allotted \$3,600 - \$1,350 covered 100%. Hand held two way radios. There is a hand held two way radio and a cordless impact gun that will save a lot of time if something happens to one the tires on a back road. There is a possibility of a battery powered chain saw, along with a chainsaw safety course.
 - m. Other business. Doe SB make these decisions of is the Road Foreman able to use their own judgment in ways to move the budgeted money around for the highway. Fred stated that the money in their budget is their money and should be able to use it to the best of their ability. They should always inform the SB as to their use. They do have up to \$1,000 without approval, communication is the key.
 - n. It is difficult to buy product on the July to June budget. Because of the road breakups, the gravel they had stored is almost depleted.
 - o. They will go back to Gravels to have them haul product. We will have to get in the que.
 - p. They are also interested in getting a Hydraulic Pump – around \$1,000.
13. Town Clerk's Office
- a. Orders - they were signed.
 - b. Other business - We have signed up for the prelude of the Resiliency Grant. In order to apply for this Resiliency grant we are required to do an assessment.
14. Other Business –
- a. Dean discussed the 2466 project update. We have moved the bricks and cement and moved the 275 gallons which was never rated to be underground. They removed a small amount of soil and placed inside steel drum, and Absolute pick up for disposal. The oil tank removed and found two old 2 post-hydraulic – totally covered and they were properly removed. Possible 50-75 gallon tank underground Recommend Better Group – check this out. Estimate for the SB is \$,4421.92. Additional excavating is around \$3,000. Connor Contracting recommend have the additional work performed and deemed as clean. About week and a half out. Close to end with clean up with the neighbors. RD moved that we authorize that we reach out to Better Group with a second by Fred. Motion carried.
 - b. We now have a Policy in place for all grants to come through the Planning Commission. The FD is asking to be exempt from that process as we do have to present it to the SB. They would like to have permission to log in for these grants. RD moved that the FD be exempted to funnel all grants through the Planning Commission with a second by Mike. Motion carried. The FD to have direct access two positions – signatory for Federal and State and to modify the signatory, this way they can write and submit the grant. Betty will work on getting Dean's name on the signatory.
 - c. We will need to discuss Old Center Road at some point.
15. Executive Session – Personnel Issues Highway – A motion was made by Fred with a second by Rd. Motion carried. We went into EX Session at 8:22 p.m. and we came out of EX at 8:40 p.m. A motion that we appoint Sid Griggs to be road foreman with a second by Karen. Motion carried. A motion that we establish at \$28 as of May 2 with a second by Skip. Motion carried.
16. Adjourn – a motion was made by Rd with a second by Fred to adjourn and we adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
 Betty Ritter, Clerk and Treasurer